

From: Honker, William
To: [Gray, David](#)
Cc: [Opalski, Dan](#); [Peterson, Mary](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Hosch, Claudia](#); [McCormick, Karen](#)
Subject: RE: HH TWDB Request Long Term Recovery
Date: Friday, September 8, 2017 10:43:07 AM

Revised version:

EPA Region 6 and Office of Water are coordinating the review of the Texas Water Development Board's September 1st request. We conclude that in many of the issues proposed, the TWDB already has the tools needed to move forward on emergency related funding requests. The SRF program permits interim financing. The Intended Use Plan (IUP) and public review are required, the method and length of time for public review is up to the state. The state has to comply with its State Environmental Review Process (SERP) and can implement Emergency Circumstances. The state develops its project ranking system and would only need EPA approval if the ranking system is changed. EPA is glad to assist if any changes to the state procedures are needed. Loan repayment, not SRF capitalization grant funds, can be used as match for federally funded projects. However, other federal agencies may not allow SRF funding to be used as match. On the American Iron and Steel (AIS) and general public interest waiver, the EPA Administrator will consider a waiver request submitted by the TWDB. EPA will expedite any approvals that may be needed to assist the TWDB in delivering SRF funding promptly

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.
Director, Water Division
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1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202
214-665-3187

From: Honker, William
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 10:41 AM
To: Gray, David
Cc: Opalski, Dan ; Peterson, Mary ; Edlund, Carl ; Hosch, Claudia ; McCormick, Karen
Subject: RE: HH TWDB Request Long Term Recovery

David,

On TWDB's letter:

EPA Region 6 and Office of Water are coordinating the review of the Texas Water Development Board's September 1st request. We conclude that in many of the issues proposed, the TWDB already has the tools needed to move forward on emergency related funding requests. The SRF program permits interim financing. The Intended Use Plan (IUP) is a federal statutory requirement, but procedures for bypassing the IUP and the length of the review and comment period are established by the TWDB. The state has to comply with its State Environmental Review Process (SERP) and can implement Emergency Circumstances. The state develops its project ranking system and would only need EPA approval if the ranking system is changed. EPA is glad to assist if any changes to the state procedures are needed. Loan repayment, not SRF capitalization grant funds, can be used as match for federally funded projects. However, other federal agencies may not allow SRF funding to be used as match. On the American Iron and Steel (AIS) and general public interest waiver, the EPA Administrator will consider a waiver request if submitted by the TWDB. EPA will expedite any approvals that may be needed to assist the TWDB in delivering SRF funding promptly.

On the Recovery front, EPA does not have a lead role for any of the Recovery Support Functions. On the LA flooding recovery we were asked by FEMA to provide a Sustainability Advisor to the effort, which we

did. We have had initial contact from FEMA through Steve Mason regarding a potential Recovery mission assignment, so we may receive one soon. I'm trying to meet today with Mike Byrne, FEMA's recovery lead, here in the JFO, so I will have more info following that discussion.

Kell and I are meeting with Richard Hyde this afternoon, so I'll explore our potential role in the Governor's Task Force.

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.

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From: Gray, David

Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 6:05 AM

To: Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>; Hosch, Claudia <hosch.claudia@epa.gov>; McCormick, Karen <McCormick.Karen@epa.gov>

Cc: Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>

Subject: HH TWDB Request Long Term Recovery

Bill,

See Sam's note. Please let me know what we can tell him and Adm that we are doing to expedite the release of funding to TWDB. It sounds like some activity is underway but I need a write up. Sam is with Govr today and Kell on Sat so it is likely to keep coming up. Also, Adm is returning to Texas soon so we need to work this issue quickly.

Also - Monica Smith sent Claudia Hosch, the Region 6 long term recovery point of contact, an email informing her that FEMA had announced they wanted the Recovery Support Function (RSF) coordinators to report on September 11. She and Karen McCormick are aware of the meeting and are handling the Recovery taskings. The RSF activities are under The water division. Are we sending someone?

We also need to develop a proposal of how we plan to integrate into the Governor's Texas Recovery Commission. It

sounds like that will fall to your group. If you ideas – please share them so we can start getting Sam on-board.

David

From: Coleman, Sam

Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 5:32 AM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>; Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>; Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Peterson, Mary <Peterson.Mary@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>; Smith, Monica <smith.monica@epa.gov>; Vargo, Steve <Vargo.Steve@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Hurricane response

I am with Bech yesterday and today. It will be very helpful if we can accommodate getting funds out quickly.

Samuel Coleman, P.E.

Deputy Regional Administrator

EPA Region 6

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From: Honker, William

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:29 PM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>

Cc: Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>; Larson, Darrin <Larson.Darrin@epa.gov>; Taheri, Diane <Taheri.Diane@epa.gov>; Hosch, Claudia <hosch.claudia@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Hurricane response

Claudia and her staff have been working very closely with OW on preparing feedback for TX on each of the items raised. We anticipate joining the discussion Monday by phone.

Bill Honker

Director, Water Division

EPA Region 6

On Sep 7, 2017, at 8:00 PM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

This meeting on recovery is next week. We are going to need to coordinate with OW especially in light of the Governor's announcement today on a Recovery Texas Commission.